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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.40

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/107 of 19 December 1994 on the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in which it requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the resolution,

Reaffirming also paragraph 2 of its resolution 49/102 of 19 December 1994,

Stressing the renewed urgency for promoting industrialization as a key element in the development of developing countries and the important role of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which is undergoing a process of reform, and recalling the declarations of the Group of 77, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of African Unity, on 29 September 1995, 1/ 20 October 1995 and 28 June 1995, respectively, on the essential role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard,

Recognizing the need for enhanced cooperation between African countries, the United Nations system and other bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, as well as African regional and subregional organizations, in the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

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1/ A/50/518, annex.

Recognizing also the important role of industrialization in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 2/

Recognizing further the importance of intercontinental, interregional, regional and subregional cooperation in the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

Noting the far-reaching implications of the fundamental developments in the international environment for development cooperation, including the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and for the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, as well as the need for concerted national and international action to enable African countries to cope with the challenges posed by, and benefit fully from, the opportunities provided by recent developments in international trade, among other things, and the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in this regard,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic and international initiatives for the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, including a favourable climate for foreign direct investment, private sector development, small and medium-sized enterprises and enhanced market access;

Recognizing the need for African countries to use both human and financial resources more effectively in the process of industrialization;

Noting with appreciation the various regional and subregional initiatives and meetings that have taken place, including the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Gaborone, Botswana from 6 to 8 June 1995, and the contribution made by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in convening and organizing industrial investment forums aimed at the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002); 3/

2. Emphasizes the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate, at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries;

3. Requests the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, as well as the Organization of African Unity and all other partners in the development process, to continue to play an active and more effective role in

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2/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

3/ A/50/487.

the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, bearing in mind the undertakings made in this regard in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

4. Encourages African Governments to strengthen national committees for the Second Decade in order to monitor its implementation effectively and to fashion effective policy responses to the challenges and the demands posed and the opportunities offered by changes in the domestic and international environment for industrialization;

5. Emphasizes the continuing need for technical and financial assistance from the United Nations system and from bilateral and multilateral sources to complement the efforts of African countries in achieving the objectives of the Second Decade, as well as the need for African countries to enhance cooperation among themselves in the areas of industrial policy, institutional development, human resources development, technology and investments;

6. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to facilitate the exchange of information among African Governments on activities carried out nationally in collaboration with the United Nations system and with the support of bilateral and multilateral partners in connection with the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade as a contribution to subsequent reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme;

7. Calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to enhance their assistance and coordinate their activities in human resources development for industry, with a view to improving the competitiveness of the industrial sector in Africa in the light of the globalization of production and the growth of related trade, investment and technology flows;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to take into account the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade when preparing for the mid-term review, in 1996, of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.